

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Michael J. BANACH, et al. Docket No: Q96450

Appln. No.: 10/588,945 Group Art Unit: 2811

Confirmation No.: 2772 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 19, 2007

For: METAL DEPOSITION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, although not required, a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is submitted herewith.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (Japanese Office Action in Application 2006-552681, dated June 16, 2009).

Applicants submits a concise explanation of relevance for JP61-61489 and JP4-272182 as follows, which is a direct translation of the relevant portion of the Japanese Office Action:

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JP61-614489 describes the features of selectively heating selected regions of a first layer using an infra-red irradiative technique to thereby thermally deactivate said selected regions. The skilled person would easily have arrived at the idea of applying said features of JP61-614489 to the step of the invention described in JP6-77626 of deactivating selected regions of a first layer, and thereby arrive at the kind of method defined in claims 3 and 7 of the present application. Furthermore, the choice of where and in which form to provide the active regions of said first layer is no more than a matter of routine choice for the skilled person; and the feature of selectively coating the first layer was previously known from, example, JP4-272182.

JP4-272182, we further note that this Japanese publication is in the same family as EP0484808, which was cited in the international search report for this US application, and for which an IDS has already been cited on August 10, 2006.

Applicants submits an English language Translation for JP 6-77626.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 11, 2009